NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 9, 2003

OVERLAND PARK, KANSAS, MAN CHARGED WITH WIRE FRAUD

KANSAS CITY, Kan. – United States Attorney Eric Melgren announced that **Jerry Lee Dixon**, 51, Overland Park, Kansas, was charged on September 8, 2003, with two counts of wire fraud.

Melgren said that an information filed with the Court alleges that from January 24, 2000, until December 3, 2002, Dixon, while an employee of Hearst Corporation, executed a scheme to obtain electronic equipment and supplies from Professional Video Supply, Inc., for his privately owned company, Digital Sound Systems, and charged the cost of the equipment and supplies to his employer, Hearst Corporation, without the knowledge and consent of his employer. The information alleges that Dixon stole blank invoices from Professional Video Supply, Inc., altered the stolen invoices to disguise the true type and nature of the equipment ordered, and submitted the fraudulently altered invoices to Hearst Corporation for payment of electronic equipment. The information further alleges that on May 15, 2000, Hearst Corporation transferred by wire \$28,859.47 to the account of Professional Video Supply, Inc., and on December 3, 2002, Hearst Corporation transferred by wire \$2,304.96 to the account of Professional Video Supply, Inc., to pay fraudulent invoices. The information alleges that Dixon illegally obtained electronic equipment and supplies costing Hearst Corporation more than \$1,500,000.

Melgren stated that Dixon will make his initial appearance on October 20, 2003, at 10:30 a.m. in U.S. District Court in Kansas City, Kansas, before U.S. District Judge Carlos Murguia. If convicted, Dixon faces a maximum of five years in federal prison, without parole, on each count. The case was investigated by the FBI and is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Marietta Parker.

As in any criminal case, a person is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty. The charges filed merely contain allegations of criminal conduct.